

# AN ILLEGAL BUSINESS

Raising Wolves and Coyotes Said to Be a Nebraska Industry.

## WHAT STATE LAW AUTHORIZES

Claims Cannot Now Be Allowed Because Appropriation is Exhausted—A Deficiency that the Next Legislature Will Be Called Upon to Supply.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 31.—Raising wolves and coyotes for bounty is an industry that is thriving in several sections of the state. Cases are known where persons have maintained families of sometimes as many as sixty wolves and then presented their scalps for the state and county bounties, which combined amount to \$4 for each scalp. Instances have also been brought to the attention of the authorities where scalps have been recovered after bounty was paid and presented again under separate and new claim.

The state law authorizes the auditor of public accounts to issue a warrant for \$1 for each wolf's scalp and the counties are authorized to pay an additional bounty of \$3. The last legislature appropriated \$15,000 for the payment of wolf bounties for the ensuing biennium, but there was at that time approximately \$17,000 of unpaid claims, which had accumulated since the appropriation of 1899 became exhausted. Governor Dietrich vetoed the appropriation, because no provision was made for the payment of the old claims. It is estimated that the claims against the state for wolf bounties now amount to fully \$25,000, and at their present rate of accumulation will reach \$40,000 by the end of next year.

The legislature of 1889 appropriated \$60,000 for the payment of bounties on wolves, \$45,000 of which was for old claims and \$15,000 for those of the ensuing two years. The latter amount was soon exhausted, as was also the former, but the claims kept accumulating as rapidly as ever.

The state law provides that any person killing wolves, wildcats or coyotes within the boundaries of the state and presenting the scalps of the same with the two ears and face down to the nose to the county clerk of the county in which the same were killed, with satisfactory proof upon oath that the same were killed within the boundaries of the state, shall be entitled to the following bounties: For every wolf so killed, \$1; for every wildcat so killed, \$1; for every coyote so killed, \$1. Certificates of such bounties, when so allowed, shall be issued by the county clerk to the person entitled thereto and upon the same being filed with the auditor of public accounts the said auditor shall draw his warrant on the treasury of the state against the general fund for the amount of such certificate, in favor of the person named therein or his assignee.

"As there is no money available for the payment of the bounties on wild animals we cannot allow the claims," said Deputy Auditor George Anthes. "But the claims keep coming in and they will all go to make up a deficiency for the next legislature to act upon. I have been told on reliable authority," continued Mr. Anthes, "that persons are making a business of raising wolves for the state and county bounties. Claims come to this office for sometimes sixty and more at a time. I am told that in some cases the county clerks are careless in disposing of the scalps presented to them and that the claimants frequently recover them after they are thrown away."

### Bad Fire at Liberty.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 31.—A disastrous fire totally destroyed four business houses at Liberty, the general merchandise stores of O. C. Aspinwall and S. C. Norris, and Florence Kelley's millinery, also Olmstead & Jimmerson's barber shop. The Aspinwall block and stock and the barber shop were insured, but the others were not. The origin of the fire is not known.

### For a Road in the Philippines.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 31.—Captain J. H. Culver of Milford, this state, is in the city en route to his home. The captain has been east for the purpose of interesting capitalists there in building a railroad which will be twenty-four miles in length on the island of Luzon. The road, which will be the second railway on the island, will run from Manila bay to Subig bay.

### Violations of Game Law.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 31.—Chief Game Warden Simpkins has filed a complaint with United States Commissioner Marlay, charging Samuel L. Rounds of York county with violating the Lacey law. It is alleged that Rounds, who is a commission merchant, attempted to ship game out of the state. A complaint under the Nebraska law was lodged in York county and supplementary proceedings were begun in this city.

## HELPS ELKHORN'S EXTENSION

Prospective Opening of Rosebud Agency Pleases the Road.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 30.—Officials of the Northwestern system have recently learned something that causes them to think still more highly of their extension of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad from Verdigris into Boyd county and to plan a slightly different future for this line. Two weeks ago it leaked out that the government would shortly open up a portion of the Rosebud Indian reservation, just north of Boyd and Keya Paha counties and across the line in South Dakota. Inquiry was at once made of Clem Deaver at the O'Neill land office, through which agency this will be done, and the answer was that the order was not yet formally issued, but that it would probably take effect soon.

This means that about 150 square miles of the finest farm land will be open soon for settlers and plans in the Verdigris extension have been conditionally altered to allow for this. The primary intention of the Northwestern officials was to reach into the rich farm lands of Boyd county, in which every quarter section has a settler and where the best corn in Nebraska was raised last season. To that end surveyors, under the direction of General Manager Bidwell of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad, has been pushing the line into the county lengthwise, about directly westward. Mr. Bidwell returned from the scene of the work last Tuesday night.

"The men are now about forty miles from the starting point, Verdigris," said he, "and are now spreading out into the country along two branching lines. One goes on westward toward Butler, the other reaches more to the north. These are both merely tentative feelers, the object being to choose which is the best route for the extension finally."

### The Memorial Fund.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 30.—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Fowler has prepared plans for the collection of subscriptions for the McKinley monument fund among the school children of the state. The work will be commenced January 6, and Mr. Fowler suggests that the lists be closed January 28, the fifty-ninth anniversary of the birth of the martyred president. With the beginning of the new year the state committee will commence the active work of gathering funds. The Workingmen's association will have its plans perfected by that time.

### Assign Terms of Court.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 30.—It has been ordered by S. H. Sornerberger and B. F. Good, judges of the district court of the Fifth judicial district of Nebraska, that the terms of the court to be held in the several counties in the district during the year 1902 be assigned as follows: Saunders county, March 30, June 9, December 1; Butler, February 11, May 20, November 11; Polk, January 21, April 29, September 9; Seward, February 19, May 19, November 10; York, March 3, June 9, December 1; Hamilton, January 20, April 28, September 8.

### Wolves Get the Sheep.

PAXTON, Neb., Dec. 30.—One of the heavy stock losses in this vicinity during the cold wave was that in Henry Abshire's flock of sheep. One thousand of them strayed away and many of the lambs and weaker old ones were killed and devoured by the wolves.

### Fracturing the Sunday Law.

FREMONT, Neb., Dec. 30.—Local police authorities claim to be cognizant of the fact that Sunday poker playing and liquor selling is going on here in violation of the city ordinances and they declare that they intend to stop it.

### Employee Remembered.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 30.—From the lowest salaried messenger to the general manager every person who has worked for the American Express company one year received a \$10 gold piece from the company as a Christmas present.

### Breaks His Neck in Fall.

MCCOOK, Neb., Dec. 30.—While running a wolf on horseback, John Sly, who lived on the Robert P. Barr ranch a few miles southwest of McCook, was thrown off his horse. His neck was broken and he was instantly killed.

### Wanton Killing of Stock.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 30.—Some one went into a pasture south of the city and killed a fine two-year-old Jersey heifer and left the carcass, after skinning it.

### New Bank for Tecumseh.

TECUMSEH, Neb., Dec. 30.—Mrs. B. F. Perkins sold a frame building and a lot on the north side of the square to J. R. Pierson of Union and F. E. Bodie of York, who will erect a bank.

## MERGING RURAL SCHOOLS

Superintendent Fowler Tells Why He Advises Consolidation.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 28.—In a communication addressed to school people, State Superintendent Fowler discusses the advantages of centralization of rural schools. Mr. Fowler advocates the consolidation of small schools and opposes the organization of rural high schools as contemplated by a law passed by the last legislature. His communication in part is as follows:

"Will our state laws permit several or all the districts in a township to unite for the purpose of forming a central high school? I answer yes. The law providing for a rural high school is set forth in sections 9 to 19, inclusive, subdivision 6, school laws of Nebraska for 1901. This department, however, is not in favor of the rural high school as contemplated in these sections, for the reason that its plan is to leave the pupils of the lower grade in these schools in their own respective independent and, in many cases, weak districts. The first condition of good rural schools is sufficiency of funds with which to provide and maintain them. How to provide these funds is not an easy problem. Many of our districts are small; the assessed valuation is low, so is the enumeration. With the small share of the state apportionment and with a tax levy that has reached the limit of the law, and yet a want of funds to run a good school, the question is indeed a serious one, and the attendance is often such as to make the per capita cost of maintenance unduly large, so that often a common school education becomes very costly. Any plan, therefore, that tends to weaken the already weak rural school should meet the opposition of all who are interested in the betterment of the rural schools. To overcome the many disadvantages of the present rural school system in Nebraska, and for the purpose of giving every farmer's boy and girl in this whole commonwealth opportunities equal to those of the boys and girls of the village and city, we recommend to the careful consideration of every rural school board and to the fathers and mothers of these children in the rural districts the consolidation of the small schools into a central school and the transportation of the pupils thereto. Consolidate or centralize the weak districts into a common central school, conveying the pupils from every part of the greater district or the congressional township to and from school by means of covered vans or wagons in charge of clean, careful, capable drivers. Such a plan would be legal under our existing statutes, as house roll 223, passed by the last session of the Nebraska legislature, removed the six-mile limit in the formation of school districts and we already had a transportation law.

**DIETRICH'S IRRIGATION SCHEME.**  
Thinks He Has a Plan Which Will Be Satisfactory to All Elements.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28.—Senator Dietrich is remaining in Washington over the holidays working on a number of irrigation schemes, which he confidently expects will finally be reduced to such form as will guarantee favorable action during this session for an irrigation measure that will immediately aid in reclaiming large sections of Nebraska for agricultural purposes. At present he is interested in bringing together those who favor national ownership of irrigation and those who favor state ownership. He has a plan whereby the national government will control and own the reservoirs and the land owners control the distribution canals. He is confident this solution of the problem will bring the two elements together.

### Reports of State Banks.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 28.—Reports of state and private banks, made in response to the recent call of Secretary Royce, are coming in rapidly. Of the 442 banks in the jurisdiction of the department, 362 have submitted their reports. So far as a hasty examination shows there has been very little change in the condition of the institutions since the former report was made. Deposits and loans are about the same as when the other call was issued.

### Cattle Die of Blackleg.

CALLAWAY, Neb., Dec. 28.—Chris Burhop, a farmer living near here, has lost eight head of cattle from the effects of blackleg. With this disease and that of cornstalk disease many stockmen have suffered heavy losses in this vicinity of late, and there appears to be no help for it.

### Loup City Gets First Books.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 28.—The first shipment of books from the Nebraska Traveling Library association went to Loup City. It had been announced the first consignment would go to Blair, but that city waived privilege.

### Caught in a Cornsheller.

PAXTON, Neb., Dec. 28.—Frank Knight had a hand caught in a corn crusher, rendering necessary the amputation of his fingers.

## THE LIVE STOCK MARKET

Latest Quotations From South Omaha and Kansas City.

**SOUTH OMAHA.**  
CATTLE—There was an exceedingly light run of cattle, so that sellers had a good opportunity to advance prices. Packers evidently had to have a few cattle, as they paid the prices asked, and trade ruled active, everything being out of first hands at an early hour. There were only a few corned steers on sale and those were of rather inferior quality. Packers, however, sought them up freely at an advance of 10¢ over Tuesday's prices, or fully 15¢ higher than Monday. The cow market was also rather excited and higher. As compared with Monday it is safe to call the market fully 10¢ higher, with occasional sales showing a still greater advance. In view of the liberal demand the twenty cuts that were on sale this morning were soon disposed of. Bulls that were good enough for killers were in good demand this morning and prices were a little better on Tuesday. Stags also sold at higher prices, while veal calves were active and strong. There were only a few bunches of stockers and feeders in the yards, but there was plenty to supply the demand.

**HOGS**—There was a very light run of hogs, and as advices from other points were favorable to the selling interests the market advanced about a dime all around. The hogs sold more freely than they have for some little time, as all the packers wanted a few and the light run made it necessary for them to buy early. The prime heavyweights sold for \$15.50 to \$16.00. Good medium weight hogs sold in most cases from \$6.15 to \$6.30, and the lighter loads went from \$5.15 down. The lightweight hogs advanced as much as did the heavier grades, but still toward the close the market was a little dull on the loads weighing much under 200 pounds.

**SHEEP**—There were only about three cars of sheep and lambs on the market today, and as packers all wanted fresh supplies the market ruled active and higher. As compared with the close of last week prices are fully 10¢ to 15¢ higher. Owing to the active demand and light receipts everything was sold in good season. Ewes sold as high as \$3.30, wethers brought \$1.10 and lambs \$5.00. There were not enough feeders offered to make a test of the market, but it is safe to call the market steady.

### KANSAS CITY.

**CATTLE**—Market strong; native beef steers, \$4.50 to \$5.00; Texas and Indian steers, \$3.00 to \$4.50; Texas cows, \$2.50 to \$3.50; native cows and heifers, \$2.50 to \$3.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$3.50; bulls, \$2.00 to \$2.50; calves, \$1.75 to \$2.50.

**HOGS**—Market 5¢ to 10¢ higher; bulk of sales, \$5.75 to \$6.00; heavy, \$6.00 to \$6.25; packers, \$6.25 to \$6.50; medium, \$5.75 to \$6.00; light, \$5.25 to \$5.50; porkers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; pigs, \$4.00 to \$4.50.

**SHEEP**—Market strong; muttons, \$3.00 to \$3.25; lambs, \$4.50 to \$5.00; western, \$3.50 to \$4.00; ewes, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

## CHAUNCEY DEPEW MARRIED

Ceremony Performed in the United States Consulate at Nice.

NICE, Dec. 28.—The civil ceremony of the marriage of Senator Chauncey M. Depew and Miss May Palmer took place at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the United States consulate. The bride's witnesses were Baron von Andre and Baron de Cantalause. The bridegroom's witnesses were James Gordon Bennett and Count de Sers. Among others present were Mrs. Palmer, Countess de Sers and Baroness von Andre. Senator Depew was in excellent health and the bride was charmingly dressed.

The bride being a Catholic, there will be two religious ceremonies. The first will take place at Notre Dame and the second at the Episcopal church, at 11 in the morning and at noon tomorrow, respectively, when ten blue jackets from the United States cruiser Albany will form a guard of honor.

## DATE FOR SHAW'S SERVICE

First of March Likely to Find Him Filling Cabinet Position.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Gov. Shaw probably will not enter upon his duties as secretary of the treasury earlier than the middle of February or the first of March. The president is under the impression that Secretary Gage desires to retire about that time, and he has undoubtedly communicated to Governor Shaw the fact that he will be needed in Washington between those dates.

Notwithstanding the official announcements from the white house that Secretary James Wilson will remain in the cabinet, there continue to appear announcements of other men to succeed Wilson, the latest being that of F. D. Coburn, secretary of the Kansas state board of agriculture. Secretary Wilson has said he expected to stay in the cabinet and the president has indicated that he desires him to continue in his official family.

### Miles Resumes His Duties.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—General Miles resumed his duties in charge of the army at his office in the War department today. It is said that he has decided to accept the situation with the best possible grace and will say or do nothing to continue the controversy. The incident will cause no decided change in his prearranged plans for the future.

### Alger Safely Over the Trip's.

DETROIT, Dec. 28.—Dr. Howard Longyear, one of the attending surgeons on General R. A. Alger, said tonight that the critical period in the general's illness had passed and that his recovery was practically certain, so far as he could determine at present.

"He has been taking some nourishment in the form of broth and has passed a very comfortable day," said Dr. Longyear.

## WOOL AND TARIFF.

WHY CHANGES IN DUTY SCHEDULES ARE UNDESIRABLE.

Unstable Conditions Would Be Injurious Alike to Manufacturers and to American Farmers Engaged in Sheep and Wool Growing.

Most opportune is the publication of the year's domestic wool clip by Mr. S. N. D. North of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers. Reciprocity schemes and methods for the benefit of one industry at the expense of others have thrown upon Congress an avalanche of literature, and some of the recommendations indicate that selfish constituents are willing to sacrifice the sheep raisers if they can thereby secure personal profit. That no change is desirable in the tariff on wool will appear obvious after a little study of experiences in this industry under the last three revenue bills. During the wise operations of the McKinley law domestic ranches increased and the home production of wool rose to 348,538,138 pounds in 1893, while imports were but 55,152,585 pounds. Immediately after the enactment of the Wilson bill foreign wool was thrown upon this market in such abundance that imports rose to 350,852,026 pounds in one year, an increase of 536 per cent over the receipts from abroad under the protective tariff, and exceeding even the high record of domestic yield. Meanwhile the home grower found no profit in competing with Australian and other cheaply raised wool, so that sheep were sold for mutton and investors in the industry lost large sums of money. The annual yield in the United States steadily decreased until only 259,153,251 pounds were clipped in 1897. With the resumption of a reasonable barrier against outside producers there came a renewal of domestic interest in this crop, and each year brought a larger total, until the report just issued shows a clip of 302,502,328 pounds.

This question of prices has been the most remarkable feature of the situation, although less bewildering when studied in connection with the records of imports and general business conditions. According to the circular of Coates Bros., one hundred grades of domestic wool averaged 22.78 cents a pound on May 1, 1892, when the country was prosperous under a sound tariff law and woolen mills were actively engaged. By September 1, 1896, the full effect of free trade was being felt, and the same grades of wool averaged 12.22 cents a pound. This fall of 46 per cent in price was not only due to the competition of outside production, but also to the disastrous condition of all industries and business under low tariffs, which rendered the wage earners unable to purchase freely of warm clothing. With the reversal of tariff policy and restoration of a duty on wool there came prompt recovery in this business, together with such confidence that the speculative influence became prominent. Despite large stocks there was inflation of prices and in December, 1899, the average price was 24.70 cents, nearly two cents higher than in 1892. That the advance was obtained too rapidly has since appeared in the reaction to 17.06 cents, July 1, 1901. Numerous and heavy failures were precipitated by these erratic fluctuations, not only among growers, but dealers and manufacturers. Mistakes must of necessity follow unstable conditions, and these irregularities are directly traceable to tinkering with the tariff.

It is not difficult to understand why the recovery in all departments of this industry has been slow, and only within the last few months have distinctly satisfactory conditions prevailed. In addition to the enormous quantity of woolen goods of all kinds that were accumulated by importers, the receipts of raw wool from abroad during the three years ending July 1, 1897, amounted to 787,797,405 pounds. No amount of prosperity could absorb this enormous stock in a short time, and it was a short-sighted policy that permitted the violent advance of prices, which was naturally followed by severe reaction. Even after the flood of cheap foreign wool had subsided, home producers and holders of domestic wool made the mistake of inflating quotations all out of proportion to the gains made in prices for the finished products. Consumptive demand, it is true, was greatly increased by the healthy tone of all business, but the rise in price of woolen goods was slow. Manufacturers were compelled to resort to the usual method under the circumstances, which was a reduction in quality. Shoddy and cheap substitutes were used, while adulteration with cotton was general. Ultimately the lack of orders produced a salutary effect on the wool market, and prices were brought down to a point where the mills could do business at a profit. Within a very short time the situation has developed signs of an encouraging nature, and a slight recovery in prices is recorded. Manufacturers have orders assuring full occupation of mills until well into next year, and within a few weeks their purchases of raw material in the Boston market established a new record for a single week's transactions, while the resulting movement also produced the largest week's shipments. At the same time there is every evidence that supplies will be ample for all needs until the next clip begins, for Mr. North's report places the stock at 650,654,842 pounds.

In the light of these facts it must be seen that this industry is in no condition for a revival of revenue changes, even if special advantages might accrue to some other industry by recipro-

cal arrangements. Every state and territory in the Union has a share in the raising of sheep. Even little Rhode Island is officially credited with over 10,000 head, while half a dozen states average about three million each. Struggling against greater disadvantages than any other industry, at last wool and woolens appear to have attained a sound position, and capital no longer hesitates to lend its aid to further expansion. At such times it is impossible to overestimate the harm that might be done by disturbing the situation in regard to customs duties.

## WHAT THEY DECIDED.

In the language of one of its delegates, the National Reciprocity Convention has proclaimed to the world that the manufacturers of America want no reciprocity that is not spelled PROTECTION.—New York Times.  
An eminently correct conclusion. That is precisely what the convention decided after a consideration of the subject in all its bearings far more exhaustive than any heretofore given to it by the manufacturers of this country. Prior to assembling in Washington they had thought about reciprocity only on the basis of its possible or probable improvement of the export trade in a few special lines. They had not thought about it in relation to the general industries of the country as a whole nor as to its bearing upon the country's prosperity as a whole. Once they had gone deeply and thoroughly into this question they discovered that as an economic and a business proposition it would be the extreme of folly to sacrifice the entire home market for the benefit of a few specialists whose industries are not directly dependent upon a protective tariff. The manufacturers of this country know a great deal more about the true inwardness of reciprocity than they did previous to the Washington convention.

## AN INDIGNANT PROTEST.



American Wage Earner—"We don't want any of this infernal nonsense. Tariff tinkering has always worked to our injury. Let the tariff alone!"

## CARRYING KINDNESS TOO FAR.

The annexation of Cuba would amount to exactly the same thing economically as freeing Cuban sugar from duty. Possibly annexation may be "manifest destiny," but we are not destined to have it if we don't want it. Expanding the country is a good enough thing, but we are not called on to sacrifice the interests of this country to those of any other country, not even Cuba. The thought is bubbling up in the minds of a good many people that perhaps we have done enough for Cuba, at least for a while. The wealth producing possibilities of the island are quite sufficient without the strangling of our fast growing and wholesome beet sugar manufacture in order to favor Cuban sugar. The Cubans should be satisfied with what they have and not seek to ruin our industries in a reckless effort to build up their own on the jump. Their country is fertile in the highest degree, and they have only to develop it to become a very rich people. We have no call to impair our own welfare to still further enhance the prosperity of Cuba.

## ARE THE TREATIES YET ALIVE?

Senator Warren of Wyoming raises a question which might form an interesting subject of inquiry and debate at the Reciprocity Convention in Washington this week. He says: "In my mind there is no actual danger to the wool industry from the Argentine or any other reciprocity treaty. These treaties expired by limitation and cannot be revived. It is questionable, even, whether new treaties can be negotiated and submitted under the two-year restriction of the Dingley act provision. If they can they will never get past the watchful friends of protection in the United States senate if they contain aught of danger to any American industry. I hope, however, to see all one-sided reciprocity treaties effectively killed off, so that they may no longer serve as a bogey man to the timid wool buyer or afford a pretext by which the bears of the wool market may depress prices at the expense and loss of the wool grower."

This view is shared by many eminent lawyers in and out of congress.

## TRUSTS AND PATRIOTS.

With the American sugar trust adding its facile ingenuity to the abilities of Cuban statesmen it will be strange if the insular patriots do not almost persuade us to give them anything they want—reciprocity, free sugar, free tobacco, free anything—even if we have to destroy an industry or two of our own to do it.